

# European Astronomical Society

## 8th Business Meeting

Moscow, June 1, 2000

### Draft Minutes

**Attendance:** Name list available on request from EAS.

The president J.-P. Zahn opened the meeting and welcomed the participants.

#### 1) Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was unanimously adopted.

#### 2) Minutes of last General Assembly

No objections against the minutes of the last General Assembly were raised.

#### 3) Report by the president of last General Assembly

J.-P. Zahn stressed the importance of EAS in furthering relations among European astronomers. In particular he emphasized the importance of JENAM meetings. He thanked the Russian colleagues for the invitation to come to Moscow and to organize JENAM2000.

#### 4) Report by the treasurer

B. Nordstroem presented the Profit and Loss Account for 1999 and the projected EAS budget for 2001.

M. Dennefeld presented the report by the auditors (Th. Courvoisier, M. Dennefeld) who had looked in detail at the accounts on April 28, 2000, in Geneva. They found them to be maintained in very good order. There were no objections by the auditors who recommended to accept the accounts as presented by the treasurer and thanked the treasurer and Mrs. E. Thomas for their careful work.

The auditors had a number of remarks:

- The actual costs of the Newsletter in 1999 exceeded the foreseen budget by about 5000.- CHF. This was due to a special mailing to European IAU members who are not yet members of the Society.
- The list of the people who received travel grants for JENAM99 was not available. The auditors urge the Council to obtain the full visibility on the usage made of the grant money.
- There is no more society funds permanently residing in the affiliated societies. The control over the society finances is now centralized in the Geneva office, as it should be.
- Only about one third of the members paid a membership fee. Distribution of paying and non-paying members per country will be established by E. Thomas. Council is invited to

take measures to rectify this situation.

- The smooth running of the society is ensured for several years; however, there is only a small margin for a few exceptional initiatives.

A discussion arose whether documents could be sent via email to the EAS members in order to save money. The general opinion was that most documents could be sent by email, that EAS should, however, make special efforts to assure that it actually reaches all members.

#### **5) Election of new Council members**

The president stated that names of the candidates determined by the nominating committee appointed by Council were sent to all EAS members. Since there were no additional nominations the candidates proposed by Council are elected:

Anatol Cherepashchuk (Russia) as Vice-President, Birgitta Nordstroem (Denmark) re-elected as Treasurer, Jochim Krautter (Germany) as Secretary, and as Councillors Michael Perryman (Netherlands), Peter Shaver (Germany) and Magda Stavinschi (Romania).

#### **6) EAS Newsletter and website**

The newsletter editor, M. Kontizas, asked for suggestions and input from the EAS members. She announced that there will be an issue specially dedicated to EAS' 10th anniversary in autumn.

The website manager M. Dennefeld complained that the job announcement page did not work very well yet due to missing input.

#### **7) Any other business**

The invitation by Astronomische Gesellschaft to hold JENAM2001 in Germany together with the annual AG meeting was renewed. The place will be either Garching or Munich, the date either the second or third week in September.

N. Bochkarev gave some statistic information on the registration for JENAM2000. About 900 people had registered. On suggestion of J. Palous, the statistical data will be published in the Newsletter.